

**Restriction on Import of Palmolein**

1574. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have since taken a policy decision to restrict the import of Palmolein to a nominal scale and its allocation to the States and Union Territories for distribution through PDS;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government propose to reconsider their decision;
- (d) if not, the manner in which the Government propose to face the adverse impact of the decision on the market prices of the edible oils; and
- (e) the total allocation of Palmolein oil for 1997 and the total quantity already supplied to the States, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (d) No, Sir. Distribution of Palmolein is not a regular phenomenon under P.D.S. as in the case of Rice, Wheat, Sugar and Kerosene. Government imports Palmolein through S.T.C. and distributes through PDS as a market intervention measure wherever necessary.

(e) A total quantity of 11,325 MT of imported palmolein has been allocated to the following States/UTs for January and February, 1997 to be supplied from the existing stocks with the State Trading Corporation :

State/UT	Allocation (Qty. in MTs)
Gujarat	5000
Karnataka	2500
Maharashtra	2800
West Bengal	500
A&N Islands	25
NCT of Delhi	500
Total	11,325

*[Translation]***Implementation of Hindi Language**

1575. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to fully implement the national language Hindi as an official language during the Golden Jubilee year of our Independence;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether England and Russia have adopted English and Russian language as their respective National languages by disowning the French language being a foreign language?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) Implementation of the Official Language policy of the Union is being increased continuously through policy of inspiration, encouragement and goodwill and by this the progressive use of Official Language is increasing.

(c) The Government do not have information relating to other countries in this regard.

*[English]***Licensing Policy for Sugar Mills**

1576. SHRI UTTAMSINGH PAWAR : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to freeze the issue of licences for four years in view of the fact that the industry is faced with the excess production; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) No Sir. Government have decided to continue the licensing of Sugar Industry for the present and have issued revised guidelines on 10.1.1997. The licensing procedure has been considerably simplified and, *inter-alia*, includes automatic licences for expansion projects. In order to cater to the requirement of sugar for domestic consumption and exports it is not contemplated to freeze the issue of licences.

**Agitation for Higher Cane Prices in Uttar Pradesh**

1577. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH HOODA : SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards the news item captioned "Offensive against cane prices planned" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times', dated January 17, 1997;

(b) whether the farmers in Uttar Pradesh are agitating for higher prices of sugarcane than that at which they supply to the sugar mills;

(c) whether the State Government of Uttar Pradesh and the Bhartiya Kisan Union have urged the Union Government to abolish the dual pricing policy;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to resolve the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (e) Information is being collected from the Government of Uttar Pradesh.

#### **Plantation by Public Sector Companies**

1578. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the private companies running iron ore mines have made efforts to undertake plantation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the specific steps taken by the public sector companies doing ore mining for observing the environmental norms ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) Private Companies undertake plantations of roads, lease areas, overburden dump sites, decommissioned tailing ponds and colonies.

(c) Various specific steps taken to observe environmental norms. These include: water spraying in dusty area; use of dust arresters with drills; controlled blasting, development of guided channels; treatment of mine water before discharge; reclamation and rehabilitation of mined-out areas, and afforestation.

*[Translation]*

#### **Pending Cases of Consumers Grievances**

1579. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of consumer cases pending for disposal with the different courts/fora, State-wise;

(b) the number of cases disposed of during 1996-97 till date, State-wise; and

(c) the time by which the remaining cases are likely to be disposed of?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Number of cases disposed of and pending with the District Fora, State-wise is given in the statement attached.

(c) Disposal of cases by Consumer Courts is a continuous process, hence, no time frame can be fixed.

#### **Statement**

State/UT	Disposed of since Inception	Pending Cases	At the End of
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	66738	12937	9/96
Arunachal Pradesh	106	34	10/96
Assam	3005	826	4/96
Bihar	15724	10503	10/96
Goa	1546	593	10/96
Gujarat	25588	16148	9/96
Haryana	30037	10149	9/96
Himachal Pradesh	6155	1077	9/96
Jammu & Kashmir	5837	1045	8/96
Karnataka	30534	11419	8/96
Kerala	66431	5033	10/96
Madhya Pradesh	23425	11510	12/95
Maharashtra	43563	17040	9/96
Manipur	601	10	9/95
Meghalaya	99	38	6/96
Mizoram	147	12	11/96
Nagaland	6	7	9/94
Orissa	12470	2065	9/96
Punjab	12046	3039	9/96
Rajasthan	73453	10618	9/96
Sikkim	60	7	10/96
Tamil Nadu	28608	5008	9/96
Tripura	487	81	9/96
Uttar Pradesh	86060	49821	8/96
West Bengal	4767	15006	9/96
Andaman & Nicobar	107	12	9/96